REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

As of the date of this Amendment, claims 1-6, 9-12, and 14-56 remain pending.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

In the Office Action mailed August 19, 2005, the Examiner indicated that claim 33, (among other claims) would be allowed if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitation of the base claim (independent claim 18) and any intervening claims (none).

In this Response, Applicants have resubmitted independent claim 18 including the subject matter of allowable dependent claim 33, thereby placing claim 18 in condition for allowance, as well the claims dependent thereon.

Applicants have further amended each of the independent to include the allowable subject matter of claim 33, thereby placing all the claims in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above-amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections in allowance in each of claims 1-6, 9-12, 14-56 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the Supplemental §1.116 Amendment filed concurrently herewith, was served via first class mail, this 19th day of April, 2006 to:

Patent Administrator

Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault, LLP

125 High Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02110,

John A. Castellano, Esquire